

SECRET

17 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI

SUBJECT : Letter from Mr. Murphy on Port Security

1. The attached letter from Mr. Murphy reflects State's concern at constantly having to ask for exceptions to the rather stringent Port Security procedures (no more than two Bloc ships at one time in East coast ports, etc.) laid down in the Continental Defense paper (NSC 5802/1), primarily to forestall clandestine introduction of nuclear weapons. None of the other Committee members have voiced major objections, but the internal security people will almost certainly have some. We have generally gone along with State's requests for exceptions.

2. Since State's letter is for information and State will submit a proposal for revision of procedures to the Planning Board, no reply seems necessary. A related issue, on whether the Port Security procedures should not be made a matter of legislation rather than Executive Order, is scheduled for NSC consideration next Thursday and we will brief you on it.

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R. W. KILMER

041 - Lush
1 - Runk
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